

Weekly National Intelligencer.

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THE WEEKLY NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

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NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1854.

THE WAR AND THE EASTERN QUESTION.

We of America, separated by nearly two thousand leagues of ocean from the theatre of the war, having no direct and instant interests dependent upon its issues, no national *amour propre* at stake, nor love of glory to be gratified by its victories, have some advantage of position over other nations for the formation of sound opinions with regard to the conflict in which the leading Powers of Europe are now engaged. It may be safely assumed that no intelligent observer, whose mind is not biased by national prejudice, can have failed to conclude that, in all the belligerents except Turkey, the present war is not a contest for supremacy, for territorial aggrandizement, or for the old bone of contention and fruitful source of European war, the "balance of power"; in other words, national aggrandizement, irrespective of the rights of others and of the general interests of humanity, which, in infinitely varied forms, have been the burden of history since history has been a written record, and which will continue to be so, there is reason to fear, till history shall cease its function. For aught that now appears—and it is with deep pain as Americans that we give utterance to the apprehension—advance in civilization, the ameliorated condition of the masses, improved social institutions, assured civil rights, and large political liberty are destined rather to operate a change in its mode of manifestation than to extinguish the principle, apparently inseparable from our nature, impelling nations to war. Popular passions and so-called national interests take the place of princely passions and dynastic interests, and the scourge of war is inflicted upon poor humanity with as little scruple now as when unmitigated feudal oppression weighed upon Europe, or, at remoter epochs, when heathen darkness brooded over the world. This instinct of expansion indicates, we think, one of the most prominent dangers threatening our own Republic; and the Democratic element among us is showing itself as eager as Kings have done for war as its agent.

Having said thus much by way of establishing the impartiality of our judgment, we may proceed with more boldness to expose what seem to us the real motives of the parties to the present war, and express incidentally some of our views relative to the Eastern question in general.

We hold that France no more than England, nor England more than France, nor Russia more than either, are in a position to invoke the sympathy of the world, spectators of the contest, and challenge admiration as being engaged in the magnanimous and unselfish support of the essentially just cause. Turkey alone of all the belligerents excites interest by the intrinsic merits of her case. She personifies right struggling against might. She draws largely upon our sympathies by her position as a weak nation fighting for national existence; as the weaker party insulted and wronged by a powerful neighbor, who is pursuing her to her ruin. She commands, too, to a certain extent, our respect by the actual strength and energy displayed in her defence. We had thought that the day for the display of such vitality as she has recently exhibited was long since past for Turkey. But we were reading no later than yesterday of a serpent, whose head had been actually severed from the body, placing itself in coil, and fiercely striking its bloody neck in the face of a man who rudely trod upon its tail. Perhaps it is this vitality that we are now witnessing in Turkey. The man thus struck was represented as fainting and falling beneath the harmless blow. The imagination of the Czar, we believe, will be found to be less impressive. Russia has stronger nerves. But, some may be disposed to ask, what is there, apart from the considerations just alluded to, that should enlist disinterested observers in the Turkish cause, and induce men who take only cosmopolitan views of the Eastern question, studying solely its bearings upon humanitarian interests and the concerns of the world at large, to form wishes for the final and complete triumph of the Turkish arms? Turkey, they allege, is Mussulman and Ottoman; that is to say, she is ignorantly, bigotedly, fanatically, invincibly opposed to the propagation of the Christian religion, to the introduction of Western civilization, so magnificent in its results already obtained, so brilliant in its promise. We know, indeed, how difficult of access Turkey is to modern reforms, and we fear that up to this time Mohammedanism counts more converts from Christianity than Christianity from Mohammedanism: yet we hesitate to range ourselves with those who say that the Turkish Empire in Europe has lost its vital principle and must speedily dissolve; who rejoice in anticipation of this result, and would even precipitate it, thinking it better for the world's interests that the Mussulmans be dispossessed, and their admirable territory occupied by any Power, whether English, French, German, or Russian, that would make it the seat of the Christian religion and of modern civilization. We are no theologians; we do not profess to be prophets or the sons of prophets; we will not, therefore, adopt this bold solution. But who knows, after all, whether Providence does not mean to bring about the promised unity of all nations in the religion of the Cross by the extinction of some as well as by the conversion of others? See what is taking place before our eyes upon our own continent of

North America. When all men are of one faith, and the Christian religion prevails universally, where will be the red men of America?

Pass we now to Russia. We cannot yield our credence to the religious pretext which represents the Czar as moved in the present war by a desire to protect from Mussulman oppression the fifteen millions of Christians numbered among the thirty-six millions of subjects composing the Ottoman Empire. We have too much respect for the Czar to suppose that he ever believed such pure unadorned pretension would be accredited in the world. It was intended for real effect, and had real effect only within the bounds of his own empire, where, with at least fifty-five of his sixty million subjects, bigoted religious fanaticism is the only common sentiment capable of being appealed to to rouse them to vigorous united action. The Emperor doubtless thought the moment opportune to advance another step toward the accomplishment of that traditional Russian policy which looks to nothing less than the absorption in his vast Empire of the whole Slavonic race, the whole of Turkey in Europe, the possession of the Dardanelles and the establishment of Constantinople as his definitive capital, or the capital of an empire for a century of his family. The sagacity of the Czar was deceived as to the amount of opposition to be met with in his contemplated advance. He feared Turkey little, Austria less; and did not anticipate as possible (who did?) that alliance of England and France, whose mere moral effect has already been to stop his advancing legions on the banks of the Danube, cause the evacuation of the Provinces so haughtily seized, and favor the array by Austria of a most threatening military force upon his own western frontiers; an alliance which has thrown into his own Province of Crimea a well-appointed invading force of nearly one hundred and twenty thousand men, now engaged—and it will probably succeed—in wresting from him his naval supremacy in the Black Sea and the elements of future aggrandizement, by the ruin of Sebastopol and the destruction of his fleet. Had this formidable alliance and its gigantic efforts been foreseen by the Czar, it is hazardous little to assert that he would have adjourned to a more convenient season the execution of his schemes against Turkey.

But we are not among those who are disposed to regard as the greatest evil that could befall modern civilization, and the grand material interests of the world at large, the establishment of the Czar at Constantinople, even in the plenitude of his power, in full realization of his ambitious dreams. Perhaps those interests would be better subserved and secured by a British or French dominion. But can it be doubted that the Russian sway would constitute an amelioration, an actual progress, in comparison with the existing state of things? We see plainly why England, in watchful consideration of her own special interests, should contemplate with alarm a Russian occupation of the Dardanelles and Constantinople. A rival competitor for influence in Asia would find his power vastly increased, and would be in possession of a capital intermediate position, from which he might occasionally embarrass, if disposed to do so, England's communications with her East India possessions. Perhaps these considerations had some little effect in inducing England to accept the alliance with France and Turkey for the prosecution of the present war against Russia. We perceive plainly, too, a danger to the special interests of France effected by the establishment of the Czar on the Dardanelles and at Constantinople. With England at Gibraltar and Russia on the Dardanelles, the Mediterranean would hardly ever become what the French so complacently contemplate, "a French lake." France, pent up and hampered by the occupation, would rather decline as a commercial and naval Power, while the commercial and naval interests of Russia would receive an impulse that would promptly make her rival, the equal, and before long probably the superior of France. Magnanimous and chivalric France would, we know, indignantly repel the insinuation. Perhaps it is unjust, but we cannot help suspecting that these considerations—it may be all unconsciously to herself—quickerened her resolutions when she so generously buckled on her armor and "rushed to the defence of the weak against the strong," of the feeble Sultan against the threatening Czar. The suspicion, injurious as it is, derives confirmation from the fact that Poland, Hungary, and Italy have all implored help in vain from France. Their need, too, was pressing, being the weaker parties engaged in an almost hopeless struggle with the strong. But they had not the advantage of possessing the Dardanelles.

Nor would the Emperor of Russia, we believe, though despotic by the form of his Government, and meaning to remain so, systematically exclude from his dominions, if established in European Turkey the light of modern civilization. On the contrary, immense regions now closed by Mussulman bigotry and prejudice would be opened, and largely, to the literature and science, to the material and moral ameliorations of Western Europe. Russia is despotic; so is France, and perhaps quite as intensely so. By despotism we mean the concentration of all political power in the hands of the Monarch. But Russia is an intelligent despotism. The Emperor feels that he is at the head of a young, robust, still rising Empire, of vast undeveloped resources, of a not distinctly defined but a certainly grand and proud future; that his Empire is destined to play a leading role in the drama of European politics for centuries to come. He is intelligent, with no narrow prejudices that will prevent his accepting with alacrity and utilizing all new ideas (political liberty alone excepted) that may conduce to the development of the intellectual and physical resources of his Empire, and quicken its progress to that eminence of splendor and power to which he firmly believes it is destined. He knows that widely-extended commerce, judiciously fostered manufactures, free industry, literature, and science constitute now-a-days the means of national progress. The history of his administration for the last twenty years shows what energy, liberality, and intelligence he has ad-

vanced in this direction by inviting to his dominions, and seeking to domesticate there, foreign literature, scientific improvements, and mechanical and industrial capacity of every description, from whatever quarter they may present themselves. He has, moreover, for many years been notoriously engaged in ameliorating the condition of the twenty-two millions of crown serfs, composing nearly one-half of the laboring population of his Empire. And notable success has attended his efforts. We know, from the history of England under Henry VIII. and Elizabeth, and of France under Louis XIV. and Napoleon I, the height of splendor, power, and civilization to which nations may rise, even under the strict reign of the purely despotic principle of government. Let us not despair, then, of the enlightenment and progress of the material and intellectual amelioration of the condition of the numerous millions who will live beneath his sway when the sceptre of the Czar shall be established in Constantinople and his cannon (if such be destiny) command the Dardanelles. A great interval of amelioration will remain to be traversed before Russia attains the point of popular material and intellectual well-being occupied by the France of to-day. This point, it seems, is quite attainable under the reign of the purely despotic theory of government, and it is hoped, to be found consistent with the permanence of that theory. Let Russia under the Czar attain that point, and we must have more faith in cannons and less in that irresistible law of progress which we believe is carrying the human race forward to improved conditions of material and moral existence, not to hope that the Russians of that day, as the French of this, would soon possess themselves, despite the omnipotence of Czar and Emperors, of the measure of political liberty they may be fitted to enjoy.

MICHIGAN.—The election of Mr. GEORGE W. PECK, Democrat, in the fourth Congressional district of Michigan, is now conceded. The other three members elect are Whigs, so that the delegation from the State will be as follows:

Next Congress.

1. David Stuart, Dem. William A. Howard, Whig.

2. David A. Noble, Democrat. Henry Walden, Whig.

3. Samuel Clark, Dem. David S. Walbridge, Whig.

4. Hector L. Stevens, Dem. Geo. W. Peck, Dem.

FLORIDA.—The official vote of Florida in the late election shows Maxwell's (Dem.) majority for Congress to be 1,074. The whole Congressional vote of the State was 16,208, showing an increase on the vote of 1852 of 1,050. In the Legislature the Democrats will have three majorities in the Senate and probably five in the House.

THE total coinage of the United States Mint in Philadelphia from January 1st to September 30th amounted to \$43,079,121.

EXPERIMENTS IN GUNNERY.—Ever since July last, with occasional unavoidable interruptions, a series of important experiments has been progressing at the Washington Navy Yard, under the superintendence of Lieut. John A. Dahlgren, assisted by Lieut. Jones. The object is to test the merits of the new gun, which is a heavy calibre gun constructed with a view to its adoption in the navy. The gun is the largest in the country, with a bore of eleven inches, and weighing sixteen thousand pounds. Upwards of one thousand and forty rounds have been fired thus far—generally thirty a day. Fifteen pounds of powder serve for a single charge, and the shot averages each one hundred and sixty-eight pounds. The cannon, we learn, was manufactured at a Northern private establishment. The shell are fired into an embankment, from which they are recovered, and again made use of for the experiments. Twelve men are required to work this magnificent piece of artillery. The skilled engineers minutely note the effects of the separate discharges on the metal of the gun.—*Sentinel.*

NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

The ship-of-war Plymouth, Capt. KELLY, Esq. commanding, sailed from Hong Kong, China, Jan. 29, bound to Annapolis via Singapore, Penang, and the Cape of Good Hope, and arrived in September at Singapore, whence she was to sail on the 20th. She has on board the presents from the Emperor of Japan to the President of the United States, and may be expected about the latter part of December.

The corvette Germantown was at Rio Janeiro on the 8th October—officers and crew all well.

The brig Bainbridge was at Montevideo on the 23d of September—all well.

The brig Bainbridge received by the Commandant of the Navy Yard at Gosport to prepare all the vessels which can be equipped for orders.

A few days ago the Commandant of the Philadelphia navy yard was directed to get the United States ship-of-war Jamestown ready for sea immediately. Her destination is to Hong Kong, China, via Singapore, Penang, and the Cape of Good Hope.

Orders were received at the Charleston (Mass.) navy yard on Friday to fit out the United States ship-of-war Cyane and Saratoga as soon as possible.

FRENCH "LIQUOR LAWS."

From the Montreal Pilot we learn that a provisional decree was published in the *Moniteur*, at Paris, on the 21st September, which is understood to be the first of a series inaugurating the policy of free trade, and which will probably be more important in its results than a superficial examination would indicate. Hereafter the duty on rum and colonial liquors admitted into France has been abolished. The duties on wine and spirits have been reduced to one-half of their former amount. The duties on foreign spirits at a uniform duty of fifteen francs the hectolitre.

The object of this abandonment of the protective system is to put a check upon the manufacture of spirits in France. For a long period France was one of the poorest countries of Europe—so poor that a citizen who owned a rental of two hundred dollars per annum might retire from public life and enjoy, upon his small income, *otium cum dignitate*. Of late years, however, the expenses of living have increased very much in France, and this is said to be owing to the circumstance that articles of general consumption, such as grain, potatoes, and beef, have been in a great measure diverted from their proper use, and devoted to the manufacture of spirits. This is particularly the case with the article of beetroot. The cultivation of this vegetable was introduced into France by Napoleon I. for the purpose of securing a home production of sugar; but the principal beetroot growers, tempted by the rising price and increasing demand for French brandy, have long since converted their sugar manufactures into distilleries, and during the year 1853 distilled nearly two million gallons of alcohol. The distillation of grain, too, has increased in such a degree as to create quite a panic among the consumers. Even the juice of the grape in the south of France is converted into alcohol instead of being used in its primitive state. Such being the ruinous state of affairs, it was obviously necessary to check the use of these substances for distillation, and the most feasible method of so doing has been adopted—that of permitting the distilled liquors of other countries to be introduced at a nominal rate of duty.—*Boston Journal.*

In Lowell (Mass.) on Saturday night Mr. RICHARD STARR was robbed of his watch by a fellow who put over his mouth a cloth wet with some liquid which nearly strangled him, and left him to be discovered by the police in a senseless condition. The scamp was subsequently arrested.

THE SOULE AFFAIR CLOSED.

The annexed article, which appeared in our Government paper, the *Union*, on Saturday, gives official assurance to the public of what we have already unofficially announced through our Paris letter, namely, the settlement of the SOULE difficulty:

"The Order Denying Mr. Soule a Passage through France Revoked.—In announcing this agreeable intelligence, we only remark at present that, so far as we could learn, it was the opinion of those who had the best means of forming a correct judgment upon the case that the refusal of the French Government to permit Mr. Soule to enter into France, which, unexplained, certainly appeared to be an act of discourtesy and a manifestation of unfriendly sentiments towards the United States, was the result of erroneous impressions, and that, when the matter was fully examined, the order would be revoked. We are rejoiced to be able to announce that this expectation has been realized. Mr. Soule has not only permission to enter into France, but has probably already availed himself of it, and is on his return to Madrid. This information was received by the last steamer, just in time to be forwarded to the United States, unaccompanied by any explanation which alluded to it.

"The conduct of Mr. MASON in this delicate and unpleasant affair has been, it is understood, eminently judicious and proper. There was nothing in the state of our relations with France which could have justified any act of unfriendliness towards this country, and we presume that this feature of the case, strongly marked as it was when first presented, will be removed by the explanations which probably accompanied the revocation of the decree by which our Minister to Madrid was denied entrance into the territories of France. We reserve further comments upon this affair until this explanation is known.—*Union.*"

Although the incident referred to has been settled, and is no longer a subject for discussion, yet the Paris paper, the *Constitutionnel*, being regarded as the semi-official journal of the French Government, we think it proper to copy from it the annexed article, which is supposed to express the views of that Government respecting the SOULE affair.

FROM THE PARIS CONSTITUTIONNEL OF NOVEMBER 1.

There is no nation which seems better calculated than the United States for living in good understanding with France. If there was any thing so natural between the two countries should exist from the very commencement of the American Union. It was then commanded by interests, as it is now commanded by interests and traditions; for the direction which the old French monarchy had given was followed by succeeding Governments; and the sentiment of our common ancestry and common interests in America, it is assuredly that of the Sovereign who now governs France. The first empire practised towards the United States, with the amplitude of ideas which was peculiar to it, a policy which has been always considered on this side of the Atlantic as one of the essential points of our system of alliance. The principle of appealing to the nation, and of universal voting, which the new dynasty has taken for its starting point, could only have for consequence to draw closer together the two countries, in spite of the difference of form which exists between the two Governments. If the interests at present at stake in the world be examined closely, every thing concurs to demonstrate how much that good understanding was indicated in advance. The principles which the Government of the Emperor defends are such as speak to the mind of a free nation, and greatly excite the sympathy of our countrymen. It is for the liberty of the Governments, it is for the liberty of the individual, that France has taken up arms; and, whilst she is defending on land ideas so much in harmony with those which constitute the basis of American civilization, she has taken the principles of maritime liberty, so dear to the great trading nations, and has been the very outlet of hostilities, shielded from the vicissitudes to which neutrals were accustomed for a century. These considerations, of the very highest political and moral order, joined to the powerful material interests which unite the two countries, between which such important and extensive commercial transactions are daily going on, should, we repeat it, establish between them a reciprocal good relations. And, in consequence, it was with a secret mingled with surprise that we have seen a series of facts and incidents taking place which would seem to present another character. With the exception of Russia, the Government of the Emperor keeps up the best relations with all the Governments of the Old and New World. However, in a foreign court, a different system is pursued, and a different policy is followed. It is the policy of France; and that agent, not content with having originated that difference, altogether of a personal nature, seems to do all he can by his demeanor and his language to transform it into a political conflict. Who is that agent? An American Minister. In the New World the principles of our system, although long followed, are recent treaties, are disregarded. Which is the country where our international right has been thus infringed? A State of the American Union. Our navy is everywhere respected. There is, however, a roadstead in which a handful of anarchical refugees have seized on an occasion the presence of our sailors to organize with impunity a demagogical masquerade; and that roadstead is that of an American town. Facts of this nature, if multiplied, would accord but little with the traditions of friendship and the community of principles and interests which exist between the two nations, and which should be for themselves as a duty on the two Governments. But it is evidently impossible to see in these incidents any thing else than the work of some mischief makers, whose acts are in discord with the intentions of the American cabinet and nation. While deploiring them, we feel full confidence that they will remain in the state of purely individual acts; and we know in advance that the Union, always animated towards France with a sympathy which is reciprocal, and which will soon be of a century's duration on both sides, declines the responsibility of incidents with which it has remained altogether unconnected.

THE CRISTAL PALACE.—The statues, paintings, bronzes, carvings, and other ornamental articles remaining in the Crystal Palace were advertised for sale by auction on Wednesday. The only articles sold were two splendid cashmere shawls, which brought \$1,125 and \$500 respectively. The former cost \$2,700 in Constantinople. The other articles were withdrawn from sale, as there were no bids as high as the minimum price, which for some of the works in marble were as follows: Costa's colossal Columbus, \$1,500; Pagan's Eve after the Fall, \$1,000; Gayard's bust of Cerito, \$500; Croff's Innocence, \$400; Carter's Iris, \$325. The Warwick vase was valued at \$5,000.

MELANCHOLY CASUALTY.—On Sunday, the 12th instant, Mr. CHARLES BREVIN, a highly respectable citizen of New Orleans, went a hunting in the Parish of St. Bernard, accompanied by a favorite negro. In the course of the day they had occasion to cross Lake Leri, and were exposed to the sudden and severe storm which prevailed that day. While attempting to land the boat was nearly upset, and the vessel overturned. Mr. Brevin and the negro contrived, however, to get astride of the boats as it floated bottom upwards, and paddling with their hands for four hours, finally reached the shore, and descended to the beach. The boat had not, and the weathered hunter knew not where they were. In this forlorn condition Mr. Brevin managed, by the aid of dry grass, to make himself a couch, where he passed the boring night in great discomfort. The next morning the boat was launched, and, though drifting laterally from exposure, he crawled in and lay down at the bottom. The negro, by dint of paddling, found an outlet, and landed the boat on the shore. Mr. Brevin, however, did not immediately reappear. Mr. Brevin appeared to have sunk into sleep, but upon seeking to rouse him it was perceived to the horror of the bystanders, that he was dead. Every effort was made to revive the vital spark, but in vain. He remains were yesterday consigned to the grave at Terre aux Boules. It is a fatal and strange coincidence that about ten days ago Mr. Brevin lost a younger brother, who, while hunting, fell upon a pointed stake, and received an injury which proved ultimately mortal. A third brother, who some years ago so severely wounded, while engaged in the same dangerous sport, that he had to suffer amputation of a limb.

FURTHER FROM MEXICO.

The *Siglo XXII*, publishes a treaty of peace and amity which has been concluded between the Republics of Salvador and Honduras. The second article provides that they shall mutually send representatives to their Governments; the third provides that the armed forces of one Power shall not trespass on the territories of the other, except by previous consent; the fourth provides that deserters from the armies of the contracting Powers shall be mutually restored on being claimed; and the fifth provides for the mutual surrender of fugitive criminals. The sixth provides that neither Government shall allow political refugees from its neighbor to take asylum under its jurisdiction, or to be accorded means of annoyance or injury against the country from which they may have fled. By the seventh article citizens of the two States are to be allowed free commercial intercourse under the laws provided for by the government of each of them, without any distinction of nationality; and the commercial treaty between the two countries of the 15th of March, 1847, is declared in full force. By the eighth duly authenticated legal documents of either country are to be considered of authority in the other. This treaty is dated September 7, 1854.

A curious phenomenon has lately been witnessed in the port of Vera Cruz. For several days in the beginning of this month the shores of the harbor and neighborhood were strewn with dead fish, cast up from the sea. So great was the quantity that serious fears were entertained of a pestilence arising from such a mass of putrefaction. Bodies of troops were turned out each day, who gathered the fish and buried them on the spot. A general order was issued commanding all those residing in the vicinity to take the same steps for the prevention of disease. In order to avoid the risk of contagion, the sale of fish. This phenomenon continued for several days, and at last gradually disappeared. It is interesting to naturalists, and we therefore give the following explanation of Mr. Adolphus Hegewisch, a surgeon in the military hospital, resulting from experiments made by order of the commandant. In the appearance of all the dead fish in slabs, the cause of the evolution of large quantities of carbonic acid gas. He judges, therefore, that the death of these fish has arisen from asphyxia, caused by this gas. He concludes that the gas has been evolved during a submarine volcanic eruption, and in support of his opinion refers to Humboldt's Cosmos, page 221. He also refers to a similar phenomenon which took place in the Mediterranean in 1821, where large quantities of fish were similarly thrown up on the shores of Corfu, Cephalonia, and the coast of Albania, and by their decomposition caused a plague, which carried off large numbers of the inhabitants.

THE CHEROKEE NATION.—The citizens of Tah-le-quah, in the Cherokee Nation, met on the 23rd of October and declared the military post at Fort Gibson a public nuisance. By the action of the Committee and Council of the Nation, four men were sentenced to be hung on the 1st of next month. A petition was sent to the Executive for a reprieve, but it was not granted. Mr. Ross remarking if the jury had had complete knowledge of the case had declared them guilty it would be transcending proper bounds for him, who was unacquainted with the circumstances, to render a contrary decision.

Alluding to the proceedings of the late Cherokee Council, the Fayetteville (Ark.) Independent says: Mr. Phelps was not on such a cold trail after all when he visited the Cherokees with his Southwestern railroad scheme. By the action of the Committee and Council of the Nation a part of the fund arising from the sale of the neutral lands will be invested in State and United States stocks, and the probability is that the Indians would prefer that the investment should be made in stock than in land, as the latter is a subject that promises such immense benefits to their country.

The action of the Cherokees should arouse our own people, and our gallant Legislature should take copy and do something wonderful. To be outdone by Indians in an enterprise peculiar to civilized nations would smother the dignity of the State. The Pacific railroad, the pipe of the South, will certainly engage the talent, tact, and hearty efforts of every member.

A bill passed the Committee of the Cherokee Council on the 25th making it unlawful for the Superintendent of Indian Affairs to entertain any person suspected of entertaining sentiments favorable to abolitionism; and it was further enacted that the different sheriffs should report any and all ministers and missionaries to the United States Agent, who were suspected of being abolitionists, and ask for their prompt removal. Lost in the Council by a vote of 9 to 11.

The Council concurred with the committee providing ways and means for liquidating the national debt by recommending a speedy retrocession of the neutral lands to the United States, provided the retrocession is effected, first to pay the national debt, also to invest in productive State or United States securities two hundred and fifty thousand dollars; one-fourth of the interest of which to be placed to the orphan school, the remaining three-fourths to be applied to the general school fund; and the remainder of the principal to be left for further legislation.

In the same bill is a clause authorizing the principal chief to appoint an agent to ascertain the number of destitute families and individuals in the nation, and set apart six thousand dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, to be paid until the first of August next; rations to be issued for one month at a time.

A bill passed both Houses appropriating \$21,100 to defray the expenses for the current year of the high and district courts. A resolution was passed to send the Cherokees, Chickasaws, Creeks, and Seminoles in general, to the mouth of the Arkansas, on the first Monday of December next, for the purpose of protesting against the Territorial bill of the Hon. R. W. Johnson.

A bill passed both Houses to organize light-house companies in the several portions for the purpose of suppressing crime, to be composed of one captain, one lieutenant, and three privates, each to be appointed and commissioned by the principal chief.

A bill passed both Houses increasing all the salaries of the officers of the nation.

A bill passed the principal chief to appoint five delegates to Washington to effect the sale of the neutral lands with the United States—John Thon, Elisha Hicks, Wm. P. Ross, W. A. Duncan, and D. M. Foreman. Adjourned sine die.

POLITICAL FUN.—The stupendous fear enacted by the intelligent, sober-minded people of Massachusetts on Monday has elicited a variety of facetious comments from those who were swamped by the deluge.

The Boston Journal cautions politicians against joining the Know Nothing and other parties, who are now in the midst of a "never go claiming at high water."

It was remarked by a person of "eminent gravity" yesterday morning that the political dish of Monday was entirely spoiled by the introduction of too much cayenne, (K. N.).

A rumor prevailed in the city that Mr. Barnum had arrived in hot pursuit of the Democratic member of the House of Representatives.

This is the only election where a great defeat has been accomplished without General Apathy being blamed. The old fellow was not in command on Monday.

The unspeakable importance of "one vote" will be illustrated next winter by our member in the House. We understand he will resist to the last extremity all overtures for coalescing the Whigs—"six of one and half a dozen of the other."

It is proposed on all hands that Mr. Hiram C. Brown, of Tolland, Democrat, should be elected Speaker of the next House of Representatives; for one thing is certain, he will never be accused of partiality in the discharge of his duties, not having a political friend on the floor!

The waters are so deep that we can't see any thing; we know nothing as to the whereabouts of our candidates for our late Whig party. Our excellent Governor has been completely washed away. Bishop will have to be admitted as a witness on the stand to swear that he was a candidate at all; and as to Wilson, we doubt if there ever was such a man; certainly there is not now.

THE RUINS OF GREYTOWN.

Correspondence of the New York Evening Post.

GREYTOWN, NOVEMBER 4, 1854.

There are just one hundred and three houses, partly finished, now being built on the ruins where the little city of San Juan, or Greytown, once stood. They are mostly shanty houses, some are shingled. The houses are from twelve feet square up to one hundred feet long by thirty-five feet wide, and are scattered over different parts of the city. The inhabitants are not able to build as costly houses as they had before the destruction of the city. There has been great mortality in consequence of the exposure of the people to the rain, which came down in torrents for days and nights upon them before they could secure any shelter. Many were found dead and alone in the woods some time after the destruction of the city, and hundreds have left and may never come back. Many here have been left destitute who are unable to get the necessities of life, and others who were formerly rich are now unable to pay their debts; the little cash on hand is absorbed in the construction of houses and stores.

There is nothing new from the interior. Chamorro holds the city of Granada, and has taken the small schooners on Lake Nicaragua; but Gen. Castell holds Virgin Bay and has taken possession at Castillo Rapido, and about forty miles from the lake down the San Juan river, and about seventy-five miles from the mouth of said river, where the bay of San Juan or Greytown is. There is no other place suitable for a city any where else than where the city is now rebuilding. All the Central States can have transportation to and from this city, and the State of Costa Rica is building a road from San Jose to the little river Sarapiquí to the San Juan, so as to send their produce down to the city of San Juan, instead of sending it around the Horn.

The State of Costa Rica has already given charters to Americans to navigate the rivers San Juan and Sarapiquí for this purpose, and a large American steamship company has been organized, who will undertake to transport passengers from New York to San Juan, up the river, thence across to Salinas Bay, on the Pacific, thence to California. This is good news here, and the people are rejoicing and anxious for the consummation.

THE TEXAS PACIFIC RAILROAD.

A telegraphic despatch, published several days ago, stated that Governor PRASE, of Texas, had refused to receive the stock offered by Messrs. WALKER, KING, and associates as a deposit to secure the Pacific Railroad contract. It now appears probable that the deposit has been accepted. We gather from the Austin State Times the following history of transactions in relation to the contract:

On the 21st of October Mr. George Hancock placed in the hands of James H. Raymond, State Treasurer, a certificate of twenty-four thousand shares in the Sussex company, at \$12.50 per share, amounting to three hundred thousand dollars. On the 28th October he drew a report of the Sussex Iron Company, exhibiting the condition of that corporation, accompanied by an official communication from Rodman M. Price, Governor of the State of New Jersey, certifying to the correctness of the exhibit, the solvency of the company, and the par value of the stock. Geo. M. Dallas, ex-Vice President of the United States, and Chancellor Kent, of New York, both gave certificates, corroborating Gov. Price's, and expressing opinions that the stock was at par, and fully satisfied the requisition of the law. The Governor of the State of New Jersey, the solvency of the company, and the par value of the stock. Geo. M. Dallas, ex-Vice President of the United States, and Chancellor Kent, of New York, both gave certificates, corroborating Gov. Price's, and expressing opinions that the stock was at par, and fully satisfied the requisition of the law.

Previous to the arrival of these evidences of the value of the stock Mr. Raymond gave Gov. Price an informal notice of the reception of the stock, and submitted the papers to him for his examination; and we understood that the Governor had authorized that the Governor declared they would not answer.

On the 28th of October Mr. Raymond notified the Governor officially of the reception of the stock, and designated its character. On the 30th of October his Excellency the Governor addressed a communication to Mr. Raymond, the State Treasurer, in which he gave an opinion that the stocks of the Memphis Manufacturing Co., and also of the Sussex Iron Company, were not par; or, to use his own expression, "I consider them insufficient." From last summer up to within a few days past the Governor had assumed the right of judging of the sufficiency of the securities offered to him, and he is now contented that in accordance with the twelfth section of the act the Treasurer was the only legal authority to decide the question.

On the 24th November Gov. Price addressed the following note to Mr. Raymond, the State Treasurer:

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, AUSTIN, TEXAS.

NOVEMBER 8, 1854.

Sir: It has become my duty officially to inquire of you whether Messrs. R. J. Walker, T. Butler King, M. T. Johnson, Hancock, John Hancock, Jas. H. Raymond, James B. Shaw, Wm. P. Dallas, ex-Vice President of the United States, Leonard Randall, J. Pinckney Henderson, and R. W. Johnson, who entered into a contract with the Governor of this State, on the 31st day of August last, to construct the Mississippi and Pacific Railroad, under the provisions of an act to provide for the construction of the Mississippi and Pacific Railroad, approved December 21, 1853, have deposited with you, as the Treasurer of the State of Texas, three hundred thousand shares in gold or silver, or in the stocks of the State of Texas, or other good and valid stocks, as a guarantee that fifty miles or more of said road shall be constructed and completed for business within the term of eighteen months from the date of said contract, and that you have received from them the sum of three hundred thousand dollars, and the terms of the contract? And also whether such a deposit was made and accepted by you within sixty days after said parties entered into said contract? An answer is requested at your earliest convenience.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. M. PRASE.

This latter note re-opens the whole question. The notices we made last week were predicated on the declaration of the Governor and others against the transportation of the stock. Until the last day or so we had viewed the contract as having expired with the refusal of the Governor to receive the deposit. Mr. Raymond made the following reply to the Governor:

TREASURER'S OFFICE, AUSTIN,

NOVEMBER 8, 1854.

Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's favor of the 24th instant, propounding certain inquiries relative to the deposits of \$300,000 by the contractors for the building of the Pacific Railroad, and in reply to inform you that I have answered the same to the best of my ability.

I now respectfully beg leave to answer all of your inquiries in the affirmative; and further state that at the earliest moment possible I will lay before your Excellency my reasons for so doing.

I have the honor to be your Excellency's obedient servant. JAMES H. RAYMOND.

Judging from the Governor's inquiries, it may be inferred he will take the view entertained by others, and deem the matter settled by the act of the State Treasurer. If such be the case, there is cause to congratulate the people of Texas upon the final disposition of a question of vast importance to them in every point of view. Up to this period we have discovered nothing in the acts or bearing of the Pacific Company to impair confidence.

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